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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from RathenowEVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 1 February 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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- 25X1 1. On 14 January 1954, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne in Rathenow quartered about 800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. Trucks were at the entrance of the installation.
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2. On 14 January, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by about 700 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. Ten 152-mm field howitzers and 19 x 122-mm field howitzers were in open gun sheds in the installation.
3. On 14 January, the Infanterie Kaserne was occupied by about 700 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. Six 120-mm mortars were in an open shed in the installation.
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4. Between 1 and 14 January, 80 to 100 soldiers were seen enlarging the target range in Semlin Heath almost daily. On 12 January, about 30 recruits trained with 3 x 152-mm field howitzers.¹
5. The following is a list of shipments from Altengrabow to Rathenow-Nord:
B - boxcar F - flatcar

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<u>Date and Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Axles and Tons</u>	<u>Number of Cars</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
13 January 6:54 a.m.	160/932	10 B 29 F	
10:32 a.m.	126/835	9 B 24 F	
5:35 p.m.	198/1179	11 B 29 F	The train carried 22 trucks, 2 jeeps, 2 field kitchens 12 x 76-mm field guns and 2 AT guns

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<u>Date and Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Axles and Tons</u>	<u>Number of Cars</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
14 January 6:43 a.m.	146/993	8 B 27 F	The train carried 27 trucks, 2 jeeps, 1 field kitchen, 8 x 300-mm rocket launchers and 2 x 132-mm rocket launchers.
11:20 p.m.	104/766	11 B 28 F	The train carried trucks and mortars

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6. At about 8 a.m. on 10 January, about 26 trucks with 12 mortars of about 160 mm and 2 mortars of about 120 mm left Rathenow in a westerly direction, coming from the direction of the barracks installation. Four 300-mm rocket launchers drove in the same direction on 11 January.²

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1. Comment. Report indicates no changes in the distribution of units of the 6th Arty Div and 25th Gds RL Brig in Rathenow post. However, the 18th How Arty Brig (US) held in the Pioneer Kaserne (5442) is equipped only with 122-mm field howitzers rather than 152-mm field howitzers.

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2. Comment. It is believed that units of the 6th Art Div and 25th Gds RL Brig returned from firing practice in Altengrabow where they had gone by road on 10 and 11 January. This is confirmed by paragraph 6 of the report. The 2 AT guns and 12 x 76.2-mm field guns unloaded an AT artillery battery with 4 guns is carried with the 18th How Arty Brig (US). However, 30 guns, most of them of 76.2-mm with the last mentioned brigade in the Pioneer Kaserne at the beginning of January. These guns are possibly identical with a type gun of the same caliber observed with the 34th Arty Div in mid-January.

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